Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claim 1. (Previously presented) A method for producing a compressed video bitstream that includes compressed video data for a plurality of frames from data that specifies a single still image, the method comprising the steps of:

fetching the data for the still image;

encoding the data for the single still image into data for an I frame;

storing the encoded I frame data; and

assembling the compressed video bitstream by appropriately combining data for:

at least a single copy of the stored I frame;

at least one null frame; and

various headers required for decodability of the compressed video bitstream;

whereby decoding of the compressed video bitstream produces frames of video which produce images that do not appear to pulse visually.

Claim 2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein:

the assembled compressed video bitstream is decodable in accordance with the MPEG-1 standard; and

the various headers assembled into the compressed video bitstream include:

a sequence_header beginning the compressed video bitstream;

at a beginning of group of pictures, a group_start_code;

for each encoded frame, a picture_start_code; and

a sequence_end_code ending the compressed video bitstream.

Claim 3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein:

the assembled compressed video bitstream is decodable in accordance with the MPEG-2 standard; and

the various headers assembled into the compressed video bitstream include:

a sequence_header beginning the compressed video bitstream;

for each encoded frame:

a picture_header; and

a picture_coding_extension; and

a sequence_end_code ending the compressed video bitstream.

Claim 4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein parameters used in encoding the data for the still image produce an amount of data for the I frame that approaches, but remains less than, storage capacity of a buffer memory included in a decoder that stores the compressed video bitstream.

Claim 5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein null frames assembled into the compressed video bitstream also include bitstream stuffing whereby the compressed video bitstream is transmittable at a pre-established bitrate.

Claim 6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the various headers assembled into the compressed video bitstream include:

a sequence_header beginning the compressed video bitstream;

at a beginning of group of pictures, a group_start_code;

for each encoded frame, a picture_start_code; and

a sequence_end_code ending the compressed video bitstream.

Claim 7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the various headers assembled into the compressed video bitstream include:

a sequence_header beginning the compressed video bitstream;

for each encoded frame:

a picture_header; and

a picture_coding_extension; and

a sequence_end_code ending the compressed video bitstream.